

ADMINISTRATION

This section has benefited by the addition of new personnel, the acquisition of more office space, the return of personnel from leave, and a general return to normal after several very busy months during which an abnormally large number of personnel were processed in and out of the organization.

There are no outstanding problems here and the present staff is fully capable of dealing with our day to day work.

There have been rumors that we may have an influx of new personnel as the result of a new T/O authorization. Unless we are to acquire additional tasks along with the new slots, I suggest we look closely at our requirements before we increase the present staff. At this time the job/worker ratio appears to be well balanced and I feel that almost everyone is gainfully employed most of the time. The addition of new personnel at this time would do no more than serve to upset this balance.

Regarding visit to Headquarters, I feel that this can be accomplished at most any time after 1 March, and suggest that we plan to have him return sometime early in March.

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MATERIEL - MAINTENANCE

The scene of greatest activity by far has been in the materiel-maintenance areas. As you know we procured about 500 square feet of excellent warehouse space from the Navy, and have been in the process of moving all items from outside storage, and a large number of items which were in the hangar, into this area for safekeeping. Just about everything has been moved in out of the weather, however, many of the items will have to be worked over before they become serviceable. We are presently working on aircraft handling equipment such as wing carts, fuse-lage dollies, etc., and in spite of having assigned a relatively low priority to this work it is progressing nicely.

We are looking forward to the arrival of the supply assistance team, as we feel they will ease our workload and speed the delivery of issues from the FAK by reducing the number of items. I think their goal of eliminating 60% of the kit can possibly be met both in line and individual items. Several weeks ago I went into our supply and selected at random about a dozen line items for consumption check. Upon checking these items I was surprised to find the individual items on hand ran from twelve to fifty items for each line item selected, and there had been no activity in these items since the kit was originally made up. This of course does not prove a thing, but it does give an indication of what we might expect to find. I also hope to have them look at some of our SIOE items while they are here. [redacted] who was sent to us from "A", has spent endless hours in the FAK room putting the records in shape, rebinning, and placing the proper stock numbers on the individual items. He will, I am sure, in addition to giving us an accurate inventory, put the kit in such condition that the task of our visiting team will be made easier. I have been very pleasantly surprised by the service [redacted] has provided.

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Aircraft maintenance leaves little to be desired. We have had a siege of trouble with a fuel regulator on one aircraft, and while the results so far have not been encouraging, I feel sure we will get a fix on it in a day or two. This seems to be one of those unexplainable malfunctions that crop out now and then. [redacted] is doing a fine job, and in spite of his relative inexperience, I have much confidence in his ability to run his section. He has much drive and a fine spirit of cooperation.

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SECURITY

This section has had a large turnover during the past two months. The notable changes have been the arrival of [] to fill the Chief and Deputy slots respectively. The work here has been purely of a routine nature. [] visited [] soon after his arrival and made his necessary contacts, and has made appropriate contacts with his Air Force counterparts.

As part of the indoctrination of dependents I plan to have the wives down in the hangar for a one time visit. I feel this will serve to kill much idle curiosity and at the same time give [] a chance to make certain that all wives have the benefit of the same briefing and are brought up to date on their status. We intend to show them selected exhibits and then give them a demonstration of the use of CO² fire extinguishers, which should be available in each housing unit soon.

COMMUNICATIONS

In this section the tasks have been routine, with the exception of monitoring the rebuilding of our 60 cycle A.C. power plant, assisting in making ready a new mobile control vehicle, and exercising plans for [REDACTED]

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Late last month I requested [REDACTED] to ammend the communications annex to our operations order to lay on us the requirement to handle the maintenance of radio equipment in our support aircraft when it was within our capability and did not interfere with our primary mission. It was not the intent to imply that we were not being fully supported in this regard, nor was it meant to serve as a request for additional equipment or personnel. The purpose was simply to change the wording in the annex itself. My reasons for asking for this change was to satisfy some of the commo personnel who felt the opns order was directed more at them than at me, and because the order did not spell out their responsibility for this task they were reluctant to do the work even though it was reasonable and well within their capability. I don't feel that it is necessary for me to justify my requests for work from personnel in the unit, however, as I realize that within the agency the commo group maintain themselves more or less as a separate entity, and as they are not accustomed to doing things as I would have them done, I am willing to go along with them. I do, however, feel that for me to do a good job I must have control of the men within the unit and their full cooperation. This is by no means a Major problem and will never be of great importance. I did feel, however, when I received the answer to my request that rather than having set forth the spirit of full cooperation, that a spirit of independence within the section was being fostered. This feeling exists in no other sections as far as I know.

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There are one or two equipment problems which are currently being dealt with. The most serious of these is the apparent inability to accomodate system three when the new system one dishes are installed.

It is my opinion that the commo section is staffed throughout with exceptionally well qualified men. There are no problems apparent to me here.

PHOTO

STAT The photo section has experienced, as you know, an almost complete turnover of personnel. This was a most necessary move, and has increased the overall reliability of this section's operation. [] has shown much interest in getting his shops straightened out and preparing for the arrival of our new equipment. I have spent quite a bit of time with him discussing his requirements and, with the exception of several small air conditioners and dehumidifiers for the large outside bay, his needs have been met. We have requested approval to procure the cooling equipment required.

STAT In my last report I told you that I could not believe we had an A-1 system which was wired in such a fashion to prevent selective operation of the rocker. To make a long story short, I brought this problem to [] and he straightaway told me that I had been misinformed. He checked the unit we have and sure enough he was correct. I find it hard to believe that the people who were responsible for the operational checkout of this equipment could know so little about it, but this was absolutely the case.

We assume our photo personnel will arrive more or less in time with the arrival of new equipment. There are no outstanding problems in this section.

OPERATIONS

The checkout of our newly assigned pilots is complete and so far they have all demonstrated much professional skill. We are setting up a weekly schedule on our T-33 and C-47 and are giving everyone a full checkout as part of our program. The drivers are getting a kick out of this as may have flown nothing but fighters. We are having a little trouble getting all of the survival gear lined up like we would like to have it, however, our problems here do not stem from a lack of equipment, and are of a minor nature.

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[] has made himself at home and is doing a very fine job. He has been making the best of our weekly exercises with Headquarters, and I feel that we have all benefitted considerably from this effort. We are looking forward with much interest to the forthcoming activities.

The new Crew Chief for the C-47 did not work out at all, so I sent him back to his unit last week. In the meanwhile we will have no trouble handling the job ourselves. Our L-20 came in today and appears to be a very clean little craft.

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We are not satisfied with the arrangements which are in effect regarding the departure and arrival of our U-2 aircraft under instrument conditions. They are by far too complicated and time consuming to meet our requirements. We are planning a session with [] Monday to work this out.

I do not feel that our emergency plans are complete as long as we do not have a plan for utilizing our capability in the event of hostilities. We certainly could do little without a complete plan and support from the Air Force. As you know, early last Spring we visited USAF HQ and offered our capability and asked them to write us in their plan. Apparently they either do not wish to use our capability or have not gotten around to figuring how they will use. At any rate I feel they are passing up a capability that cannot be found elsewhere in the theater.